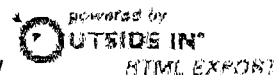




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Next Steps: Contact Secretary Mineta by Wednesday, February 8

Fax/Mail a Letter to the Department of Transportation

(Sample Letter)

The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta

Secretary of Transportation

United States Department of Transportation

400 Seventh Street, Southwest

Washington, DC 20590

Fax: (202) 366-7202

Re.: Dockets OST-2005-23460/-23461

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are writing to strongly recommend that your Department quickly approve the Virgin Nigeria Airways application to initiate direct service to and from the United States.

Nigerians stand nearly four million strong in the United States. As Nigerian Americans and Nigerian's who have made the United States their home, we need direct access to Nigeria. Currently we travel over twenty-four hours with long layovers in European ports. Direct service from the United States to Port Harcourt city, Nigeria means over a fifty percent cut in travel time to most U.S. destinations. A significant decrease in air travel time will allow for greater moments with family members and greater development opportunities with business partners.

A direct flight to Port Harcourt city opens up not only Nigeria to the United States, but also the region of West Africa and the whole of the African continent. Virgin Nigeria is already providing service from Lagos to Johannesburg in South Africa, Accra in Ghana, Douala in Cameroon, and Abuja and Port Harcourt, the political and oil capitals of Nigeria respectively. Service is also planned for Kano in Nigeria, Monrovia in Liberia, Freetown in Sierra Leone and several other destinations.

For all concerned, direct service will allow for access and opportunity for the continued development of Africa. To begin, Virgin Nigeria can help fulfill the technical and safety goals set in the U.S. Safe Skies for Africa initiative. This is of particular importance given the recent air traffic accidents in Nigeria. Virgin Nigeria stands at the forefront of airline safety and security. Because of its technical partnership with a European carrier, it is being designated as a preferred airline by governments, corporations and non-profits; the United States included. And further, the Nigerian carrier can fulfill a larger U.S. goal to increase U.S.-Nigeria and U.S.-Africa economic interaction.

As a member of the Nigerian Diaspora in the United States it is my sincere hope that Virgin Nigeria's application for direct service is carefully considered and approved.

Thank you, for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

1/31/06
Chukwudi Ebele ORAEBKWE Pharm.D
PETER

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